SISTER STATE AGREEMENT between STATE OF MARYLAND OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and LENINGRAD OBLAST OF RUSSIA

In order to promote friendly relations and to enhance understanding and cooperation, the State of Maryland of the United States of America and the Leningrad Oblast hereby enter into an agreement of friendship and exchange as a sister state relationship.

Recognizing the mutual interests of Maryland and the Leningrad Oblast and the many opportunities for cooperation in business and industry, culture, education, agriculture, technology, environmental protection and tourism, it is their objective to promote and develop joint programs of exchange in all of these areas and in others that may be identified in the future.

It is also their firm belief that through programs of cooperation and exchange the peoples of Maryland and the Leningrad Oblast will gain much in friendship and understanding of one another.

In witness whereof, the Governor of the State of Maryland and the Governor of the Leningrad Oblast have signed this agreement of mutual cooperation.

Done in Annapolis, Maryland, the United States of America, the 22nd day of June, 1993.

Tyras Athey

Maryland Secretary of State

for

William Donald Schaefer

Governor

State of Maryland

United States of America

Alexander Belyakov

Governor

Leningrad Oblast

Russia